

COME PARTICIPATE IN THE MERCED TO SACRAMENTO HIGH-SPEED TRAIN PROJECT!

The California High-Speed Rail Authority will host public scoping meetings along the project section to provide the public with an opportunity to learn about the project, ask questions and provide feedback about what project alternatives and environmental issues should be evaluated in the EIR/EIS. Please join us for one of the following Open House sessions:

STOCKTON
January 20, 2010
San Joaquin Council of Governments
555 E. Weber Avenue, Stockton, CA

MERCED
January 21, 2010
Merced Senior Center
755 W. 15th Street, Merced, CA

SACRAMENTO
January 27, 2010
Amtrak Depot, Model Room
301 I Street, Sacramento, CA

MODESTO
January 28, 2010
Modesto Center Plaza
1000 L Street, Modesto, CA

COMMENTS

Public scoping comments regarding the Merced-to-Sacramento HST project will be accepted until Wednesday, February 26, 2010. Please send comments to Dan Leavitt, Deputy Director, Merced-to-Sacramento, California High-Speed Rail Authority, 925 L Street, Suite 1425, Sacramento, CA 95814. Comments can also be submitted via email to comments@hsr.ca.gov with the subject line "Merced to Sacramento HST."

CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED TRAIN PROJECT WILL:

- Be built on dedicated right-of-way, safely separated from cars and trucks, pedestrians and other rail traffic
- Use only a fraction of the energy of automobiles and airplanes
- Help free California from dependence on fossil fuels and reduce greenhouse gases that cause global warming.
- Reduce traffic – the statewide system will remove over 50 million auto trips per year
- An additional 600,000 jobs are expected to be created as a result of the economic growth the train system will bring to California
- Improve the environment – the energy efficient, high-speed trains will provide a transportation alternative that will help reduce air pollution.
- Provide better connections – provides a safer, time and cost efficient alternative to automobiles and will help relieve overcrowding at major airports

For more information visit www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov



FLY CALIFORNIA
Without ever leaving the ground.

WHAT IS THE HIGH-SPEED TRAIN?

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) is proposing high-speed train service for travel between Los Angeles and San Diego in the south to the San Francisco Bay Area and Sacramento in the north. This fast, safe, reliable system will travel at speeds in excess of 200 miles per hour and is forecast to carry up to 41 million passengers annually for the entire 800-mile high-speed train network by the year 2035.

MERCED TO SACRAMENTO HIGH-SPEED TRAIN PROJECT

The Merced-to-Sacramento section of the High-Speed Train (HST) system includes the City of Sacramento south to the City of Merced. Proposed route alternatives generally follow the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), the Central California Traction (CCT) or the Union Pacific (UP) railroads throughout the section. HST stations are proposed in Sacramento, Stockton, Modesto, and Merced. (See detailed map inside.)

CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED TRAIN SYSTEM



ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS

California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) initiated the project-level environmental review process for the high-speed train project between Merced and Sacramento.

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Authority has issued a Notice of Preparation (NOP), and the FRA published a Notice of Intent (NOI) for the preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). As part of the initial phase of the environmental process, public scoping meetings will be hosted to receive public comment on the alternatives and issues that should be examined as part of the environmental analysis. Your comments will be considered in the preparation of the environmental document and will become part of the public record.



WHAT IS SCOPING?

Scoping is the first opportunity to become involved in the Merced-to-Sacramento HST project-level Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). During the scoping process the public, as well as city, county, state, and federal agencies have an opportunity to provide comments on project alternatives and environmental impacts to be evaluated in the EIR/EIS. The purpose of the scoping process is to:

- identify public and agency concerns early in the environmental process
- receive input on alternatives and issues that will be examined in the Draft EIR
- save time in the overall process and facilitate an efficient EIR/EIS preparation process

IMPLEMENTATION AND CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE

